

# THE GREAT STRUGGLE IN TENNESSEE

Full Account of Last Week's Operations.

The Advance Upon the Enemy from Nashville.

SEVERE FIGHTING FOR THREE DAYS.

Full Details of the Battles of Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

THE REVERSE OF WEDNESDAY.

The Enemy Checked on Thursday.

Our Army Gains a Decided Advantage on Friday.

THE BATTLE OF SATURDAY.

List of Prominent Casualties on Both Sides.

PRISONERS AND MATERIAL LOST AND TAKEN.

In order to enable our readers to form a correct idea of the course of the series of collisions between the armies of Gen. Rosecrans and Bragg during the last week, we print below the telegraphic accounts of our special correspondent of the events from the first advance of our army on the 25th ult., together with his reports of the latest date. Our correspondent's reports are the only intelligible ones received, and, as he has been with Gen. Rosecrans himself throughout the conflict, they may be relied upon as authentic.

THE ADVANCE FROM NASHVILLE.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune. HEADQUARTERS FOURTEENTH ARMY CORPS, TWENTY MILES FROM MEMPHIS, Dec. 29—P. M. Gen. Rosecrans's army moved on the morning of Dec. 26. The advance was made with about 45,000 effective infantry, and 24 batteries of about 120 pieces. The army was organized into the right, center and left grand divisions, respectively commanded by Major-Gen. McCook, Thomas and Crittenden. The right consisted of the divisions of Gen. Johnson, Sheridan and Jefferson C. Davis, the center of those of Gen. Nagley and Rousseau, and the left of those of Gen. Wood and Palmer. The army advanced in columns: Gen. McCook and Gen. Thomas over the Nashville Pike, and Gen. Crittenden over Main Pike from Nashville to Murfreesboro.

General McCook first encountered the enemy's pickets, and skirmished sharply on the afternoon of the 26th. The 101st Ohio of Carlin's brigade captured one gun and caisson from a Georgia battery. Our loss was 2 killed and 5 wounded. The troops behaved splendidly. There was also eight skirmishing on the left.

Dec. 27 the army pushed on with sharp skirmishing on the right and left. Crittenden lost 2 killed, 27 wounded, and 5 prisoners. They killed and wounded some Rebels, captured 30 Alabama cavalry and captured the bridge at Stewart's Creek in gallant style. McCook drove Hardee from Tipton, where he had been west from Murfreesboro. The weather was heavy and the troops fatigued. Gen. Nagley and Rousseau's divisions now moved to the center, leaving McCook on the right.

On Sunday nothing was done. Gen. Rosecrans determined to start on that day. The army was in motion at daylight on December 29. Gen. Jeff. C. Davis moved up Murfreesboro in advance on the right, on Holly dark road, several miles north of Tipton. Gen. Nagley and Rousseau's divisions of Thomas's grand division in the center, Crittenden's corps on the left, moving down Murfreesboro and Jefferson Pikes, Wood's and Van Cleave's divisions of the latter corps right and left respectively, while Palmer's division was in reserve. A battle on Stewart's Creek was anticipated, but excepting a duel between Parsons's 6th U. S. Artillery and a Rebel battery, at 9 o'clock a. m., to the right of Murfreesboro Pike, during the crossing of the creek, there was no engagement. From 10 o'clock on, the army crossed Stewart's Creek from right to left without opposition. At 1 o'clock we were within 6 miles of Murfreesboro on the direct pike, the army still pushing on in splendid style. McCook, with Davis's, Sheridan's, and Johnson's divisions on the right, Thomas, with Nagley's and Rousseau's divisions in the center, Crittenden, with Wood's and Van Cleave's divisions in front, and Palmer in reserve on the left. It was marvelous we were not stubbornly repulsed at Stewart's Creek. At 2 o'clock we are anticipating a battle, with some doubt of a general engagement at Murfreesboro. Now and then there is a cannon shot and a little skirmishing with cavalry corps.

Gen. Rosecrans says his headquarters will be established near Murfreesboro this evening. He is now at Stewart's Creek, ten miles from Murfreesboro, and all the reserves are far across the creek. The grand battle, if any, will be on Stone's River, at Murfreesboro. The day is magnificent. An afternoon engagement will be in our favor. There is some skirmishing, and the wind blowing in the faces of the enemy. We have no cannon yet. Should the enemy evacuate Murfreesboro we shall pursue rapidly, anticipating a battle near Shelbyville.

THE BATTLE OF WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

Nashville, Tenn., Thursday, Jan. 1—P. M.

I have just returned from the scene of a terrible battle on the west bank of Stone's River, in front of Murfreesboro. It was fought with unrelenting fury two days, and at last was not yet decided. It is one of the most ferocious battles of modern times, sustained by both sides with splendid determination. The whole of Tuesday was spent by our forces recovering.

The enemy was found strongly posted with artillery on the bank of Stone's River, west side, his flanks resting on Murfreesboro, west side. The center who had the advantage, on high ground, with a dense growth of cedar making them completely. Their position gave them the advantage of a cross fire.

Gen. McCook's corps closed in on their left on Wilkerson's Pike; Nagley, or Thomas's corps, worked with great difficulty to the front of the Rebel center, Rosecrans's division being in reserve. Crittenden's corps was posted in comparatively clear ground on their left; Palmer's and Van Cleave's divisions in front; Wood's in reserve.

A battle was expected all day on Tuesday, but the enemy merely skirmished and threw a few shells, one of which killed Orderly McDonald, 4th U. S. Cavalry, not ten feet from Gen. Rosecrans. That afternoon the Anderson Pennsylvania Cavalry, on McCook's flank, was drawn into an ambuscade, and its two Majors, Rosecrans and Ward, were killed. Crittenden's corps lost 4 killed and 21

# New-York Tribune

VOL. XXII.....No. 6787. NEW-YORK, MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 1863. PRICE THREE CENTS.

wounded that day, including Adj. Elliott of the 57th Indiana, severely. McCook's loss was about 50.

On the same day the Rebel cavalry made a dash in the rear, on Laverne, burned a few wagons, and captured 35 prisoners.

That night dispositions were made to attack the enemy in the morning. After dark the enemy was reported moving near Murfreesboro, obviously to turn our right wing.

This corresponded with the wishes of Gen. Rosecrans, who instructed Gen. McCook to hold him in check stubbornly, while the left wing should be thrown into Murfreesboro behind the enemy.

At daybreak on the last day of December everything appeared working well. The battle had opened on the right, and our left wing was on hand.

At 7 o'clock ominous sounds indicated that a fire was approaching our left. Aids were dispatched for information, and found the forests full of flying negroes and straggling soldiers, who reported whole regiments falling back.

Meantime one of McCook's aids had announced to Gen. Rosecrans that Gen. Johnson had permitted the three batteries of his division to be captured by a sudden attack of the enemy, and that it had somewhat demoralized our troops was obvious.

The brave Gen. Sill, one of our best officers, was killed; Gen. Kirk wounded, and Gen. Willich killed or missing, beside other valuable officers wounded.

Gen. Rosecrans sent word to Gen. McCook to hold the front and he would help him, that it would all work right.

He now galloped to the front of Crittenden's left with his staff to order the line of battle, when the enemy opened a full battery, and emptied two saddles of the escort.

Van Cleave's division was sent to the right, and Col. Healy's brigade in front.

The fire continued to approach on the right with alarming rapidity, extending to the center, and it was clear that the right was doubling upon the left. The enemy had compelled us to make a complete change of front on that wing, and were pressing the center.

Gen. Rosecrans, with splendid daring, dashed into the furious fire, and sending his staff along the line, urged Beatty's brigade forward. Some six batteries opened, and sustaining a magnificent fire, directly a tremendous shout was raised along the whole line, and the enemy began to fall back rapidly.

The General himself urged the troops forward. The Rebels, terribly punished, were driven back fully a mile. The same splendid bravery was displayed in the lines and they advanced, though the enemy made formidable demonstrations on our left, while they prepared for another onslaught on our right.

Meantime, orders had been issued to move our left upon the enemy, but before they had time to execute them they burst upon our center with awful fury, and it began to break. Rosecrans's division was carried into the breach magnificently by their glorious leader.

The enemy again retreated hastily into the dense cedar thickets. Again they essayed our right, and again we were driven back. By this time the number of our stragglers was formidable, and the prospect was discouraging; but there was no panic.

The General, confident of success, continued to visit other parts of the field, and with the aid of Gen. Thomas, McCook, Crittenden, Rousseau, Nagley, and Wood, the tide of battle was turned early in the day.

We were seriously embarrassed by the enterprise of Rebel cavalry, who made some serious dashes upon some of McCook's ammunition and subsistence trains, capturing a number of wagons, and artillery ammunition grew alarmingly scarce.

At one time it was announced that not a single wagon load of it could be found. Some of our batteries were quiet on that account. This misfortune was caused by the capture of McCook's trains.

About 2 o'clock the battle had shifted again from right to left. The enemy discovering the impossibility of succeeding in their main design, had suddenly turned their force on the left, crossing the river, or moving under cover of bluffs on the right, and for about two hours the fight raged with unrelenting fury, to the advantage of the enemy for a considerable length of time, when they were checked by our murderous fire, of both musketry and artillery.

The scene at this point was magnificently terrible. The whole battle was in full view. The enemy displaying right and left, bringing up their batteries in fleecy style, our own vomiting smoke and iron missiles upon them with awful fury, and our gallant fellows moving to the front with unflinching courage and lying flat upon their faces to escape the Rebel fire until the moment for action.

Shell and shot fell around like hail. Gen. Rosecrans was himself necessarily exposed. It was wonderful that he escaped. His Chief of Staff, the noble Lieut.-Col. Garabed, had his head taken off by a round-shot, and the blood bespattered the General and some of the Staff. Lieut. Lylin Kirk, just behind him, was lifted clear out of his saddle by a bullet which shattered his left arm.

Three or four and a gallant Sergeant Richmond, of the 4th United States Cavalry, were killed, not ten feet from him, and five or six horses in the staff escort were struck.

Between five and six o'clock, the enemy, apparently exhausted by his rapid and incessant assaults, took up a position not assailable without abundant artillery, and the fire on both sides slackened, and finally ceased at dark. The battle having raged eleven hours, the loss of life on our side being considerable, and the terrific nature of the field comparatively limited.

Our casualty list that day, excluding captures, did not exceed perhaps 1,500, of whom not more than one-fourth were killed. This is attributable to the care taken to make our men lie down. The enemy's loss must have been more severe.

When the battle closed, the enemy occupied the ground which was ours in the morning, and the advantage was theirs. Their object in attacking us was to cut us off from Nashville. They played their old game. If McCook's force had held more firmly against Hardee's corps and Cheatham's division, when he fought Rosecrans, the plan of battle would have succeeded.

At dark they had a heavy force on our right, leading to the belief that they intended to pursue. Their cavalry, mounted, was excessively troublesome, cutting deeply into our trains behind us, and we had not cavalry enough to protect ourselves.

The Fourth Regulars made one splendid dash at them, capturing sixty-seven and releasing three hundred prisoners they had taken from us, recaptured five hundred prisoners of the enemy.

THE BATTLE OF THURSDAY, JAN. 1.

Gen. Rosecrans determined to begin the attack the next morning, and opened furiously with our left at

dawn. The enemy, however, would not retire from our right, and the battle worked that way. At 11 o'clock matters were not flattering on either side.

At 12 o'clock batteries received new supplies of ammunition, were massed, and a terrible fire was opened. The enemy began to give way, Gen. Thomas pressing on their center and Crittenden advancing on their left. The battle was more severe at that hour than it had been, and the result was yet doubtful.

Both sides were uneasy, but determined. Gen. Rosecrans feels its importance fully. If he is defeated he will be defeated badly, because he will fight as long as he has a brigade. If he is victorious the enemy will be destroyed.

At this hour we are apprehensive. Some of our troops behaved badly, but most of them were heroes. I believe all but Walker's brigade, consisting of the 17th and 31st Ohio, and two other regiments, were not in Wednesday's battle, being on guard, but they were engaged to-day.

The enemy seemed fully as numerous as we. They did not use as much artillery. Gen. Johnson and Bragg were in command. Prisoners say they lost largely. Gen. McCook was brave to a fault, and self-possessed. He narrowly escaped death many times. His horse was killed under him, and he was severely hurt by his horse falling under him.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune. BATTLE-FIELD, IN FRONT OF MURFREESBORO, Jan. 2, 1863—P. M.

The battle on Stone River is not yet decided, although it has continued for three days, with intermissions yesterday and to-day. After the severe struggle of Wednesday, the enemy persisted in musing upon our right, to cut us off from Nashville.

To foil this attempt, our right was thrown out to Stewart's Creek, and the enemy finding us too strong on that portion of our line, suddenly fell upon our center on Thursday morning, but were severely repulsed by the left of Thomas's and the right of Crittenden's Grand Divisions.

Later in the day they fiercely assailed the right of our center and were again repulsed. Both sides spent the remainder of the day in sharp skirmishing and maneuvering for position.

THE BATTLE OF FRIDAY, JAN. 2.

During Thursday night the enemy appeared again to be concentrating upon our right. Their commands were distinctly heard in our camps, but supposing some Gen. Rosecrans threw Beatty's brigade of Van Cleave's division across Stone River on our left, with supports, where they rested at about 10 o'clock this morning. Between 3 and 4 o'clock the afternoon the enemy made another formidable demonstration against our center, but were badly repulsed.

At the same time an immense mass of infantry was precipitated upon Beatty's brigade and drove it, after a gallant resistance, clear back across the river.

Nagley's fine division, which took so distinguished a part in the preceding actions, and that of Jefferson C. Davis, successively came to his support, when a most desperate struggle ensued. Both sides seemed determined to win victory, and both brought all their available artillery to play, until nearly all the batteries in the two armies were at work. The uproar of musketry and artillery was of the most furious description, and the whole field was soon shrouded by clouds of smoke. Our men suffered severely by the enemy's fire, but they advanced with unflinching determination. Nagley at last ordered his division to charge. It pushed forward without faltering, when the enemy suddenly gave way. The gallant 28th Pennsylvania charged home on the 26th Tennessee, and captured its colors. Another regiment rushed upon a battery, drove away the gunners, and seized the guns. A great shout of victory rose along the whole line, and was carried in magnificent volumes from left to right and back again.

Perceiving this success Gen. Rosecrans now ordered an advance of the whole line just before dark. The line swept forward with loud enthusiasm, but darkness soon made it impossible to press our advantage to a conclusion. Nevertheless the left was fairly established on the east bank of the river. The center advanced to a position heretofore held by the enemy, and the right again occupied that portion of our original line from which it had been driven on Wednesday. Thus, it will be perceived, the decided advantage is with us.

To-morrow morning, however, the battle will be resumed. We now feel confident of ultimate victory.

THE LOSSES.

Our losses since Wednesday morning amount to about 4,000 killed and wounded, of which 100 are killed. Our loss of prisoners is several thousand. The enemy on the first day captured about 25 guns and disabled six. We captured four from them on Wednesday. The Rebel loss, estimated by themselves, was between 4,000 and 5,000 killed and wounded, including Brig.-Gen. Rains killed. Altogether, we have captured about 1,000 prisoners, from all the Southern States. Gen. Cheatham, Adjutant-General, and sundry field officers, were captured.

Among the casualties on our side, additional to those already forwarded, are Col. Schellenger, commanding Missouri Brigade in Sheridan's Division; Lieut.-Col. Cotton, of Louisville; Lieut.-Col. Tanner, 23d Indiana; Maj. Russell, 6th Ohio; all killed. Wounded—Col. P. T. Swaine, 29th Ohio, through right arm; Col. Scott, 19th Illinois, badly; Col. Anderson, 6th Ohio, in thigh; Col. Black, 40th Indiana, and the Lieut.-Col. of same Regiment wounded and captured while being moved to Nashville; they were paroled and proceeded; Capt. R. H. Nelson, 22d, and Lieut. Burke, 1st Ohio Artillery; Capt. Penny and Carpenter, 5th and 8th Wisconsin Batteries, killed; Col. Wolfe, of Ohio, and Col. Carlin, of Illinois, commanding brigades, and Lieut.-Col. Shepherd, 18th Regulars, reported killed were not hurt.

Gen. Willich was captured unhurt. Among hundreds who have been conspicuously distinguished themselves are Gen. Nagley, Gen. Stanley, Col. Walters of the 88th Illinois, Capt. Thomson, an Fisher of McCook's Staff, Capt. Otis of the 4th Regular Cavalry, and Col. Von Schrader. The daring valor and self-sacrifice of Gen. Rosecrans under the most trying circumstances, excites the most enthusiastic admiration of the army. The field hospitals are admirably conducted by Medical Director Swift and Staff.

THE BATTLE OF SATURDAY.

LEWISVILLE, Ky., Saturday, Jan. 3, 1863.

Telegraphic communication is restored between here and Nashville.

It is reported that Gen. Bragg was killed to-day.

There has been fighting all day, but no particulars are given.

Our forces are advancing, and the Rebels are falling back across Stone's River.

The following officers are wounded slightly: Col. Miller; Col. Black of the 4th Indiana; Lieut.-Col. Neff; Col. Hill; Capt. Pate.

It has been raining heavily all day in the vicinity of the battle-field.

SECOND DISPATCH.

There was heavy cannonading to-day until noon, when the rebels attacked our left wing, and were terribly repulsed.

There was very little fighting yesterday.

Our forces do not yet occupy Murfreesboro.

The Rebels attacked and destroyed our hospital buildings on Thursday.

The Rebels are being strongly re-enforced from the Rebel army at Richmond.

THIRD DISPATCH.

There was a spirited engagement at Laverne to-day between the Mechanics and Engineers under Col. Innis, and Gen. Wheaton's Rebel cavalry. The latter were routed with the loss of 33 killed.

All "contrabands" captured by the Rebels on the Union wagon trains are immediately shot. Twenty thus killed are lying on the Murfreesboro Pike.

Maj. Stenmer and Capt. King, who were being conveyed away wounded from the battle-field in an ambulance, were captured by the Rebels, taken four miles away, and then paroled and thrown out on the road.

Gen. Willich is not killed, but is wounded, and a prisoner.

Yesterday, Gen. Rosecrans personally took command of the 4th United States Cavalry, and attacked Gen. Wheeler's Rebel cavalry, who were cut to pieces and utterly routed.

Capt. Mack, Chief of Artillery, and on General Thomas's staff, is mortally wounded.

A dispatch from Col. Anderson to headquarters here, says:

"We have whipped the Rebels decidedly, and are at Christiansburg, nine miles south of Murfreesboro on the railroad."

FOURTH DISPATCH.

Nashville, Tenn., Saturday, Jan. 3, 1863.

Col. McKee is reported killed. Our loss of officers is heartrending.

The fighting to-day has been light. It closed last evening with terrible slaughter of the enemy.

FIFTH DISPATCH.

Nashville, Tenn., Saturday, Jan. 3—P. M.

The first day's fighting was all our own way, but the right wing of our army fought itself into a bad position.

The third day we repulsed the Rebels with terrible slaughter, ourselves sustaining but slight loss.

Rebel Account of Wednesday's Battle.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune. WASHINGTON, Jan. 4, 1863.

Richmond papers of Friday contain the following dispatches, the first of which is official to the Rebel War Department:

MURFREESBORO, Wednesday, Dec. 31, 1862.

We assailed the enemy at seven o'clock this morning, and after ten hours hard fighting have driven him from every position except his extreme left, where he has successfully resisted us. With the exception of this point we occupy the whole field. We captured 1,000 prisoners including two Brigadier-Generals, 31 pieces of artillery and some 200 wagons and teams. Our loss is heavy, but that of the enemy is much greater.

BRANTON BRAGG, General Commanding.

The following are newspaper dispatches:

MURFREESBORO, Tuesday, Dec. 30, 1862.

The day passed without any general engagement. About one o'clock a heavy and brisk artillery duel was fought, occasionally interrupted with sharp-shooting. The firing gradually closed on both sides about five. The casualties amount to about nothing. It is evidently the desire of the enemy to force us to attack him; but failing in this desire, and having placed his forces in position, the battle will open at daylight in the morning. Artillery and sharpshooters were engaged to-day. With the exception of about an hour scarcely any small arms were used.

The following is a special dispatch to The Savannah Republican:

MURFREESBORO, Wednesday, Dec. 31, 1862.

The enemy took position yesterday afternoon 1 mile in front of our lines. We burnt the splendid mansion of Mr. Cowan on the Nashville turnpike, 500 yards in front, together with all the outhouses; also Mr. Hardee's residence on the Wilkeson turnpike, in order to prevent the enemy from using them for shelter. This morning is raw and rainy, and the inhabitants are rapidly moving beyond our lines. Heavy skirmishing commenced to-day at 9 o'clock but no general engagement has taken place up to this hour. The force of the enemy is estimated at about 60,000. Heavy musketry firing has commenced in front, and there are indications of a general and terrible engagement this afternoon. On our left the engagement soon became general and the battle is now raging heavily. The greatest confidence prevails among our officers and men. The enemy has made a desperate charge upon our line but was repulsed with heavy loss. A brilliant artillery duel is now progressing.

TO THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Jan. 4, 1863.

Richmond papers of the 31 inst. contain dispatches from Murfreesboro of the 1st. Bragg says the expedition made under Gen. Forrest fully accomplished its object. The railroads are broken in several places.

A large amount of stores have been destroyed, many arms captured, and 1,300 prisoners paroled. Gen. Morgan has done his work, but the full effect is not known. The enemy in Tennessee and Mississippi are without railroad or telegraph communication with the rest.

Bragg's second dispatch of the same date says the enemy has yielded his strong point, and is falling back. We occupy the whole field and shall follow. Gen. Wheeler made a complete circuit of their army on the 30th and 31st with his cavalry. He destroyed 300 wagons loaded with baggage and commissary stores, and paroled 700 prisoners. He is now behind them, and has captured an ordnance train. To-day he secured several thousand stand of small arms. God has granted us a Happy New-Year.

MURFREESBORO, Wednesday, Dec. 31, 1862.

The bloodiest day of the war has closed. McCook's Division attacked the enemy's right, driving them back with great slaughter. By 3 p. m. the enemy had been driven back six miles from our left and center. Our loss is heavy.

Gen. Rains, Col. McNair, and Col. Anthony of the 27th Mississippi, and Lieut. Thier of the 1st Louisiana, were killed; Col. Black, 5th Georgia, and Col. Fisk, 20th Louisiana, were mortally wounded. Whitney's Cavalry captured 200 prisoners, a large supply of wagons, and 400 beavers.

President Lincoln's Proclamation—One Hundred Guns Fired at Pittsburgh.

Pittsburgh, Pa., Saturday, Jan. 3, 1863.

One hundred guns were fired here at 11 o'clock last night in honor of the Emancipation Proclamation of President Lincoln.

Sailing of the Nahant.

Boston, Jan. 4, 1863.

The iron-clad Nahant sailed last night, in tow, for New-York.

THE WAR IN ARKANSAS.

Gen. Blunt in Occupation of Van Buren.

Retreat of the Rebels During the Night.

EXPEDITION INTO THE INDIAN TERRITORY.

Defeat of the Rebels at Fort Gibson.

DESTRUCTION OF THEIR WORKS AT FT. DAVIS.

Capture of Hindman's Correspondence.

ST. LOUIS, Saturday, Jan. 3, 1863.

Gen. Blunt telegraphs from Van Buren, Ark., on the 30th ult., that the Rebels retreated during the night toward Arkadelphia, abandoning about sixty wounded Rebels at Fort Smith, whom they left with instructions to take care of themselves.

Gen. Blunt also reports that Col. Phillips, whom he had sent into the Indian Territory with twelve hundred men, has driven the Rebel forces of Col. Coffee and Stewart across the Arkansas River, at Fort Gibson, and destroyed the Rebel fortifications, barracks and commissary buildings at Fort Davis.

Col. McIntosh's command of Rebel Creeks and Choctaws, have expressed a desire to lay down their arms and return to the allegiance of our Government.

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark., Thursday, Jan. 1, 1863.

Rebel newspapers captured at Van Buren, Ark., admit that the loss of the Rebels in killed and wounded at the battle of Prairie Grove was over 4,000.

The entire telegraphic correspondence of General Hindman was taken. It contains much valuable information, and will be forwarded to the War Department.

The hesitation of the Rebel army is most pitiable.

Four thousand of Hindman's infantry are without shoes.

The loss to Rebel citizens by the recent Rebel raid amounts to over half a million of dollars.

The Rebels are dispersing in every direction.

It is reported that the Rebels have met with heavy losses at Arkadelphia, fifty-five miles south-west of Little Rock.

Gen. Schofield has assumed command of the Army of the Frontier.

THE CAPTURE OF VAN BUREN, ARK.—Official Dispatch from Gen. Blunt.

TO MAJOR-GEN. CURTIS—General. The Stars and Stripes now wave in triumph over Van Buren. On learning that Hindman had been reinforced, and contemplated making another attempt to force his way to Missouri, I determined to attack him. Leaving my transportation north of the mountains, I marched from Prairie Grove at 8 o'clock yesterday morning upon this place, a distance of fifty miles.

At 10 o'clock this morning, my advance came upon two regiments of Rebel cavalry at Deeping Springs, eight miles north of the river. Dashing upon them with 3,000 cavalry and four mountain howitzers, a brisk running fight took place, which was kept up to the town, resulting in the capture of all their transportation, 40 wagons, with six mule teams, camp and garrison equipage, 100 prisoners, a large amount of ammunition, four steamboats, and a ferry-boat. The latter was taken in attempting to cross the river with Rebel troops, and was shelled from the howitzer. When in the middle of the stream, the boat was disabled and a number of men killed. The remainder jumped overboard and swam to the shore.

Three large steamers, laden with supplies, had got up steam and attempted to escape down the river, but were pursued by cavalry five miles, and brought to by the fire of their carbines, and returned back to the levee.

The enemy then brought their artillery to the opposite bank of the river, and commenced shelling the town for the purpose of driving out my cavalry, but resulting in no other damage than the destruction of some